

Middletown Transcript.

VOL. XXVI.—NO. 46

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1893.

PRICE, 3 CENTS

WINTER PASTIMES

HOW TO ENJOY LIFE WHEN WINTER WINDS WHISTLE.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS

Middletown Ladies Busy With Social Functions—A Delightful Entertainment at the New Headquarters on Monday—A Birthday Party and Other Social Events of the Week.

Now stir the fire, and close the shutters fast,
Let fall the curtains wheel the sofa round,
So that we welcome peaceful evening in.

OWPER thus beautifully describes the winter evening, and though he lived in old England a hundred years ago, his picture of domestic enjoyment and home happiness is as true to-day as it ever was.

How to get the most pleasure and profit out of the long winter evenings that are already upon us is a question of no small importance in small towns and villages and the more remote rural districts.

While some look with dread for the long and dreary winter, others are full of delightful anticipation of the social pleasures that are only enjoyed at this season.

Already the different "sets" and societies are planning entertainments, socials and parties, and the coming winter will not be behind its predecessors in social festivities and the season in Middletown society will not go lagging by. Even some of our ladies are so absorbed in their various undertakings for church and society, together with the charities and many other functions, that they scarcely know the delight of an evening at home.

But it is well to remember the home circle in planning the winter pastimes, and nothing is more essential than a well chosen collection of books, papers and magazines.

There is fashionable reading as well as of fashionable dress, and there are books that are all the rage just as certain styles of hats, coats, gowns, etc. And aside from the enjoyment one finds in reading new and popular literature, it is quite a satisfaction to know that one is not behind the times either in books or bonnets.

But those who follow the fashion in dress merely for the sake of certain styles, and seldom models of artistic taste, and those who read only the popular literature are not the best guides to follow. But in choosing books for the winter reading, you cannot go wrong with such authors as Edna Lyall, Amelia Barr, Lew Wallace, Toulmin and such periodicals as the Century, St. Nicholas, Ladies Home Journal, Youth's Companion, not forgetting the Transcript, the library table will be well supplied.

MUSICAL AND LITERARY.

A Pleading Programme Given on Monday Evening.

The entertainment on Monday evening, at the new Temperance Headquarters, was well attended by a very appreciative audience, and those who arranged the pleasing program have reason to feel well satisfied with their efforts. Price's orchestra that never fails to please its hearers rendered a number of choice selections on this occasion and added much to the evening's programme.

"The Village Blacksmith," was the first literary piece, and was well given by Miss Mabelle Taylor. Miss Ethel Parvis captivated the audience with her charming solo, "Lovely Angelina," and her recitation "Aunt Tabitha," won rounds of applause. The pretty story was never told with more simple grace and naivete and the audience would gladly have heard more from the same source.

Miss Julia Statts recited "Give me back my boy," a pathetic selection well followed by a vocal solo, "The Wanderer," by Miss Hattie Barnard, whose sweet voice is always heard with pleasure.

Hugh C. Browne, Esq., made an address on the "Aim and needs of the reading room," which was followed by a vocal duet by Misses Hattie Barnard and Helen Price.

"Doing the Rose Act" a humorous selection by Josiah Allen's wife was given by one of the ladies, and evidently much enjoyed by the audience.

A vocal quartette, "Wearing the Blue" was well sung by Miss Martha Heat, Ethel Parvis, Dr. W. E. Barnard and Will Vansant, after which Revs. F. H. Moore and N. M. Browne made a few remarks, each expressing hearty approval of the movement and urging the citizens to support the ladies in their efforts to establish a free reading room by contributing to the fund.

Miss Adelle Hazard, under whose direction the entertainment was given, very gracefully expressed her appreciation of the interest and enthusiasm manifested, and promised at a distant day to give another programme with equal attractions. The proceeds to be applied to the reading room fund.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

A Pleasant Surprise to a Young Lady on C Street.

The young friends of Miss Martha Heat, on tendered a surprise party on Thursday evening, in honor of her birthday.

A very delightful evening was spent in games, music and other amusements, and refreshments were served at about 11 o'clock.

Those present were, Misses Mary Pleasant, Mary Cochran, Beesie Reynolds, May Holton and Allie McKee, Messrs. Wm. Lockwood, Wm. Metten and Geo. F. Wilson.

A NEW ORGANIZATION.

Preachers' Meeting of the M. E. Ministers at Smyrna.

PERSONALITIES

Little Lines About Men and Women and What They Are Doing.

—Reese Parker was in Felton on Thursday.

—Miss Emma Short, of near Smyrna, is visiting in town.

—Mr. Leon Heacock, of Philadelphia, was in town on Saturday.

—Mr. and Mrs. James Burnham spent Thursday in Philadelphia.

—Messrs. J. A. Suydam and W. J. Barnett spent Wednesday in New York City.

—Miss Vinie Lynch and Miss Eugenie Beeson spent Monday in Philadelphia.

—Miss Myrtle Houston is visiting her sister Mrs. J. M. Naudin in Baltimore.

—Miss Corinne Cochran returned home on Wednesday after a three months visit to Chicago.

—Mr. Edwin Preitman visited her brother Clarence Preitman in Smyrna this week.

—Miss Edella Jones, of Wilmington, was the guest of her sister, Mrs. J. L. Parsons, on Saturday.

—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Thomas, of Hatfield, N. J., were guests of Mr. William Taylor on Thursday.

—Mrs. T. H. Gilpin returned home Wednesday evening, after several week's visit to her home in Chesapeake.

—Messrs. Jesse Shepherd and Emil Macey spent several days this week in Maryland on a gunning expedition.

—Mrs. J. M. Arthurs, of Kenton, with her little daughters, Sylvia and Susie, is visiting her mother, Mrs. M. M. Wright.

—Mrs. Prof. Jones and Miss Virginia Jones, of Wilmington, wife and daughter of a former Principal of the Academy, spent Sunday in town, guests of Miss Ireland.

—Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hukill very delightfully entertained a number of their friends last evening at their beautiful home on Cass Street.

An elaborate dinner was served at 6 o'clock and the evening was most enjoyed by all participants. Among those present were: Rev. and Mrs. N. M. Browne, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Williams, Miss Anna Cox, Miss Lou Cox, Hugh C. Browne.

MRS. SADIE E. DOWNS.

Her Death and Burial—A Tribute to Her Memory.

Died, at the residence of her husband, James Downs, near Summit Bridge, on Sunday evening, Sadie E. Downs, aged 44 years.

Like a great cloud over the midday sun, the death of her dear mother, who knew her, was a great loss to all who knew her. She was a true mother, whose presence chilled all hearts, but her coming seems never irreconcilable as when the home is robbed of wife and mother.

Mrs. Downs was born and raised in the community where she has always lived, and where she was a most valued place in the hearts of the people that only she could fill. Rich and poor alike were her friends, for she had that charm of person and manner that drew all people to her.

She was the only child of William and Elizabeth Cavender, and her whole life from a happy girlhood to a mature and beautiful womanhood was marked by a rare ideal devotion. Of a bright, happy disposition, she carried sunshine wherever she went. Her home was always the abode of genial hospitality, and the cordial welcome, cheer and bounty that was extended to all who were in great need. She was from childhood a member of the M. E. Church, and her life was that of a consistent Christian, full of charity and good deeds. Not only her family circle but the church and community sustain no common loss in her death.

About two and a half months she was stricken with typhoid fever, and though weak and frail, her recovery seemed well assured; but one relapse followed another until the third resulted in death. Her funeral from her late residence yesterday, was very largely attended, many of the poor people whom she had befriended, walked for miles to pay a last tribute to her memory. Her pastor, Rev. T. H. Hunter, officiated, and in beautiful and appropriate words spoke of her past life and triumphant death.

The interment was at Odessa.

Mrs. Downs leaves a husband and one child, a little boy, well, about 10 years old, and aged and infirm father who for years had made his home with her.

The bereaved ones have the sincere sympathy of the entire community.

Weddings to Be.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of John G. Gray, of Washington, and Miss Laura Ross, daughter of Mrs. William H. Ross, of Philadelphia, on November 23d, at 1 o'clock, at St. Andrew's Church, at Baring and Thirtieth streets, Philadelphia.

The bride-elect is a daughter of the late ex-Governor Will H. Ross, of Sanford, and sister of the late Senator William H. Ross and Colonel James J. Ross, both of Sanford. She lives in Philadelphia most of the time, but occasionally occupies the old home at Sanford.

Cards have been issued announcing the marriage of T. E. White, Adams Express Agent at Clayton, and Miss Bertha Seiders, formerly of Dover. The ceremony will be performed at the home of the bride's parents at Clayton, Wednesday, November 23d.

Teachers' Institute.

Next Tuesday our town will be the rendezvous of the New Castle county teachers, and already our people are getting ready to welcome them. School ma'ams are ever attractive, and we do not need to wait for the institute to find them, for we have them with us all the year round, but not in such numbers. All the day sessions next week are open to the public, and everyone is invited to attend the meetings and learn from the various instructors what is being done for the advancement of our youth, and all are specially urged to attend the rare entertainments given in the evenings.

JUNIORS AT CHURCH.

The Middletown Council Will Attend Service at Forest Church.

Middletown Council, No. 2, Jr. O. U. A. M., will attend divine service at Forest Presbyterian Church, Sunday evening, December 3d.

This day is set apart by their National Council as a day of Thanksgiving and it will be observed by the organization in general. Rev. F. H. Moore will preach a special sermon on the occasion to the members. A large turnout is anticipated.

THANKSGIVING NIGHT.

A Popular Play by Local Talent Followed by a Supper.

The entertainment for Thanksgiving night this year, will be of a highly interesting character. Those who are arranging it are making every effort to have it one of the very best ever given. Experience has proven that nothing pleases a Middletown audience more than a bright, humorous play and that is what will be given on Thanksgiving night. The title is "Wedding March," and from first to last is a succession of grotesque and side-splitting situations. It has been given with great success in Wilmington, and those who compose the cast are a guarantee that it will be equally popular here. There will be several other attractive features to the programme that have not yet been announced. Among those who are to take part in the drama are Dr. J. C. Miller, Louis Barnett, H. C. Browne, J. C. Maxwell, E. S. Jones, George M. Rose, J. S. Suydam, W. O. Stack, Reese Parker, Messrs. Mabelle Taylor, Jessie Hukill, Ethel Parvis, Mable Parvis and others.

After the play, which will consume about an hour and a quarter, the ladies of the M. E. Church will serve in the form of a suppers, every thing in the form of delicious salads, oysters, ices, etc., will be found for the satisfaction of all. Don't fail to spend your Thanksgiving evening at the Middletown Opera House.

—The first of the season fell on Wednesday. Early risers found the ground very uneven, but the roads were too wet for it to last long.

—"Are you done husking," is the general salutation among the farmers who meet on our streets.

—The sudden drop of the mercury on Wednesday night is a warning to get ready for winter.

—Every town that we know of on the peninsula is having, had or will have an oyster supper, with the uniform menu of oysters, chicken salad and cold turkey. Let the good work go on.

—The frost is on the pumpkin, and the fiddle is in the air.

—And we hear the cuckoo and gobbles of the strutting turkey cock.

—Sunday evening, Rev. F. H. Moore will preach the second sermon of the series on the Formation of the New Testament, and the reception of the Bible by the Christian Church.

—Our merchants are already getting ready for the holiday season, and in spite of dull times are kept pretty busy. The past week especially has been a good one for Mr. Messick, and his run of blankets has almost cleaned out his stock.

—Wheat is looking well. The farmers have nearly finished getting in corn, but the crabs are by no means full.

—The temperance prayer meeting at the M. E. Church on Thursday evening was a very interesting service. Rev. F. H. Moore of the Presbyterian Church, made a stirring appeal for temperance and Rev. N. M. Browne was very earnest in his commendation of the efforts of the W. C. T. U. The meeting was well attended and there is evidence of an increasing temperance sentiment in our town.

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